

10/669,801
FJ-2003-018-US

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REMARKS

Claims 1-8, 10-12, and 14-23 are all the claims presently pending in the application. Claims 1-5 and 14-15 have been amended to more particularly define the invention. Claims 19-23 have been added. Claims 9 and 13 have been canceled.

It is noted that the claim amendments are made only for more particularly pointing out the invention, and not for distinguishing the invention over the prior art, narrowing the claims or for any statutory requirements of patentability. Further, Applicant specifically states that no amendment to any claim herein should be construed as a disclaimer of any interest in or right to an equivalent of any element or feature of the amended claim.

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the Examiner's indication that claims 9 and 13-16 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicant notes that claims 1-5 have been amended to include the limitation of allowable claim 9, and new claims 19-23 (which correspond to original claims 1-5, respectively) include the limitation of allowable claim 13. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that all of the claims are allowable.

Applicant notes that the form PTO-892 which was included with the Office Action dated July 25, 2008 listed as a reference Beaver et al. (U. S. Patent No. 3,035,093). However, this document appears to be unrelated to the claimed invention and thus, the listing of this reference appears to be in error. Applicant suspects that the Examiner intended to include Kazarni et al. (U. S. Patent No. 6,035,093) instead of the Beaver patent.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that claims 1-8, 9-12 and 14-23, all the claims presently pending in the application, are patentably distinct over the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is respectfully requested to pass the above application to issue at the earliest possible time.

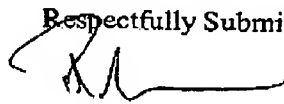
Should the Examiner find the application to be other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary in a telephonic or personal interview.

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The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in fees or to credit any overpayment in fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-0481.

Respectfully Submitted,

Date: 12/31/08

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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that the foregoing was filed by facsimile with the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Examiner Wanda M. Negron, Group Art Unit # 2622 at fax number (571) 273-8300 this 31st day of December, 2008.



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